

2013 Valedictory Speech

“DESTINED TO SUCCEED”

Chief Guest, The Chancellor, Deputy vice chancellors, principals of colleges, Dean, Directors, our beloved teachers, parents, my fellow graduands, Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. Good morning!

I am humbled and honored to address such a wonderful gathering- all under the umbrella of celebrating success. I take this opportunity to thank the Almighty for all he has been and all he has done for us. Through a long winding road, which can only be defined by the faithful as a miracle, we are gathered here to reap our fruits. It is a humbling beginning to those of us who never believed this day would come. Now it is our turn to do all that is accorded to us by the degree.

On behalf of my college graduands, I hereby extend our sincerest gratitude and appreciation to God, who gave us this opportunity. You have shown us that we can do that which we set our hearts to do.

To our parents, thank you for the sacrifices you have made over the years. You have enabled us to reach this all important milestone. We promised never to let you down and today you can attest to this. To God is the glory.

To the Government of Kenya, we appreciate the financial support we have received. We urge you to mobilize resources to ensure that every child has the opportunity to acquire the highest level of education. Resources should be always be availed to every child of this republic, especially as we celebrate our jubilee year.

To the School of Pharmacy, I lack words to express gratitude. Your mentorship is the reason I can stand before you all today, as representative of the brilliant minds you have nurtured. Special thanks to the Dean, School of Pharmacy, Professor Guantai for being a mother to every one of us. I thank all my lecturers and support staff for their consistent support – ASANTE.

To my colleagues, I could not have chosen a more outstanding group to share this journey with. We have labored and achieved great success – HEKO KWETU! I urge us to devote ourselves fully to a lifetime of service to others through the Pharmacy profession. My dearest friends, I only ask that God may bless you immensely for walking with me through the four years.

I challenge all the graduands. How shall we be remembered? The University is challenging us to go out and offer a helping hand in solving issues that require our knowledge and skills in all the corners of our currently described global village. Let's help each other better our nation.

To the youths of this country, you have in you the opportunity to craft your future, seize it without fail. The sky is just your stepping stone.

I draw to a close with the simple yet powerful quote, "Pursue excellence and success will automatically follow you" Let this mantra be our guide to greatness.

God bless Kenya. God bless the University of Nairobi and God bless us all. Nawashukuru nyote!!

LUCY A. OCHOLA